

**Department of Historic Resources
Reconnaissance Level Survey**

Accomack

DHR Id#: 001-0027-0048

Resource Identification

Property Name(s): WFF # F-006 - NASA Headquarters Building
{Current}
Property Date: 1946
Address(s): Bliss Street and Bond Street {Current}
County/Independent City: Accomack
Vicinity of: Chincoteague
State, Zip: Virginia 23337
USGS Quad Name: CHINCOTEAGUE WEST
Surrounding area: Rural

National Register Eligibility Status

Property is Historic (50 years or older)

Resource Description

Ownership Status: Public - Federal
Acreage: 0.5

Primary Resource Exterior Component Description:

<u>Component</u>	<u>Comp Type/Form</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Material Treatment</u>
Chimneys	Chimneys - Not Visible		
Foundation	Foundation - Slab	Concrete	Foundation - Poured
Porch	Porch - None		
Roof	Roof - Gable	Asphalt	Roof - Asphalt Shingle
Structural System	Structural System - Log	Brick	Structural System - 5-course Americ
Windows	Windows - Sash, double-hung	Vinyl	Windows - 1/1

Site Description: Set on a flat, level area across Bliss Street from F-4 (001-0027-0046) and F-5 (001-0027-0047).

WUZIT Count:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Wuzit Types</u>	<u>Historic?</u>
1	Administration Bldg.	Historic

NR Resource Count:

Individual Resource Information

WUZIT: Administration Bldg.

Est. Date of Construction: 1946 {Owner/written data} Accessed? No Not accessible
Primary Resource? Yes Number of Stories: 2.0
Architectural Style: Other Condition: Good-Excellent
Interior Plan Type: Central Corridor Threats to Resource: None Known

Description: This long, rectangular two-story building is made of brick with a minimally pitched (almost flat) side gable roof, with metal eaves and aluminum flashing that overhangs slightly on the northwest and southeast (front) elevations, and a poured concrete slab foundation. The brickwork is laid in 5/1 American bond on the first story and stretcher bond on the second. The building is five bays wide by sixteen bays long. All of the windows, save one, are one-over-one double hung vinyl sash replacement with decorative, removable mullion inserts and concrete sill. One original double hung wood sash window remains on the northwest elevation. Many of the windows are covered by modern, aluminum triple track storm and screen window frames. Modern one-story entry vestibules with flat roofs have been added to the two center bays of the southeast elevation and to the center bays of the northeast and southwest elevations.

Cemetery Information

Bridge Information

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National Register Eligibility Information

Historic Context(s): Military/Defense

Historic Time Period(s):..... S- The New Dominion (1941- Present)

Significance Statement: This two-story masonry building, built in 1946, serves as the facility headquarters building, as it did when originally constructed as part of the Chincoteague Naval Auxiliary Air Station (CNAAS). The building was designated as "F-6" on the 1950 "Map of Navy Auxiliary Air Station and Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" prepared by the U.S. Navy. It was designated as the "Administration Bldg." on the 1953 "Station Development Map – Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Naval Aviation Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" by the U.S. Navy. It was again identified as the "F-6" in the 1957 "General Development Plan – Naval Air Station, Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" by U.S. Navy. It is located on the corner of Bliss and Bond Streets, across from the two dormitory buildings (001-0027-0046, WFF # F-004 and 001-0027-0047, WFF # F-005) in a level area near the geographic center of the Wallops Flight Facility (WFF) main base. Concrete sidewalks surround the building, with extensions to each doorway and the adjacent buildings. A parking lot is located to the southwest. An open lawn surrounds the building and adjoining parking lot on the northwest and southwest sides.

This building is an example of a Military/Defense property type that gained importance in the New Dominion (1945 – present) period and was one of several buildings constructed on CNAAS following the end of World War II. Established in 1943, CNAAS was used as a training base for Navy aircraft carrier squadrons that would be serving in the Pacific theater of World War II, and to enable Civil Air Patrol to conduct antisubmarine operations off the Atlantic coast. In 1946, the U.S. Navy expanded the mission of CNAAS to include the Naval Air Ordnance Test Station (NAOTS). By 1949, the U.S. Navy discontinued aircraft carrier training and in 1951 CNAAS became a Naval Air Facility, with a primarily research-based mission that corresponded with the mission of NAOTS until the base was closed in 1959. In 1959, the ownership of CNAAS was transferred to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and was renamed Wallops Station. The building has essentially retained its original use throughout its history on the base.

The NASA Headquarters Building has been evaluated both as a contributing resource in a historic district and as an individual resource. Issues of significance, integrity, and district boundaries were carefully considered. A proposed district comprising this resource lacks integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association due to the removal of the majority of buildings from the period of significance (1936 to 1959) and the construction of later buildings. Thus a historic district here is not eligible under Criterion A, B, C, or D.

The resource is not eligible for listing in the National Register or the Virginia Landmarks Register under Criterion A, B, C, or D. It is not associated with any event or individual significant at the local, state or national level; it does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant or distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; nor does this property have the potential for providing additional information in history or prehistory.

The NASA Headquarters Building has lost its integrity due to alterations to the resource and its setting. The resource's integrity of materials, design, and workmanship has been adversely affected by replacement of the building's doors and windows and the introduction of a modern addition to the northeast, southeast and southwest elevations. Although remaining in its historic location, the building's integrity of setting, feeling, and association has been adversely affected by the changes made to the surrounding setting of the base of which it was a part; by 2004, the majority of buildings of this period have been demolished, changing the historic character of the physical environment of the building's historic context.

Bibliographic Documentation

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DHR Id#: 001-0027-0048

Reference #: 1

Bibliographic RecordType: Map

Author: Giffels and Valet

Citation Abbreviation:

Notes: Giffels and Valet, Engineers and Architects, Detroit, Michigan. "General Plot Plan – Auxiliary Air Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1942.

Reference #: 2

Bibliographic RecordType: Map

Author: U.S. Navy

Citation Abbreviation:

Notes: "Map of Navy Auxiliary Air Station and Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1950.

Reference #: 3

Bibliographic RecordType: Map

Author: U.S. Navy

Citation Abbreviation:

Notes: "Station Development Map – Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Naval Aviation Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1953.

Ownership Information

Graphic Media Documentation

<i>Medium</i>	<i>Depository ID #</i>	<i>Photo Depository</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>File Name</i>
35mm B&W	21529	DHR	2004/07/99	Frames 23-27

Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Events

CRM Event # 1,

Cultural Resource Management Event: Reconnaissance Survey

Date: 2004/07/99

Organization or Person: URS Group

VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: .. 2003-0571

CRM Event Notes or Comments: 200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

CRM Event # 2,

Cultural Resource Management Event: Reconnaissance Survey

Date: 2003/08/08

Organization or Person: URS Group

VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: .. 2003-0571

CRM Event Notes or Comments: 7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700
Bethesda, MD 20814